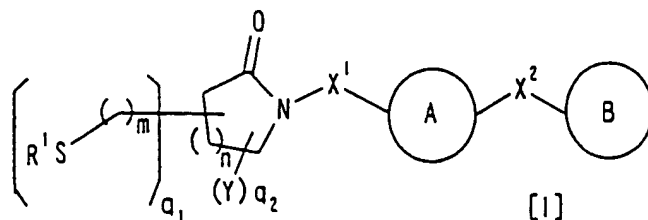


Claims

1. A compound represented by Formula:



5 wherein ring A and ring B may be same or different and each is an optionally substituted homocyclic or heterocyclic ring, wherein the substituents on ring A and ring B may be bound to each other and taken together with ring A, ring B and X² to form a condensed ring, each R¹ may be same or different and is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, an optionally substituted heterocyclic group or SR² (wherein R² is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an acyl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group), X¹ is a bond, an optionally substituted divalent C₁₋₃ aliphatic hydrocarbon group or -NR³- (wherein R³ is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an acyl group), X² is a bond, an optionally substituted divalent C₁₋₃ aliphatic hydrocarbon group, -NR⁴- (wherein R⁴ is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an acyl group), -O- or -S(O)_p- (wherein p is 0, 1 or 2), each Y may be same or different and is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, an acyl group, an optionally substituted hydroxy group, an optionally substituted amino group, SR⁵ (wherein R⁵ is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an acyl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group), an oxo group, a thioxo group, an optionally substituted imino group, a nitro group or a cyano group, each m may be same or different and is 0 or 1, n is

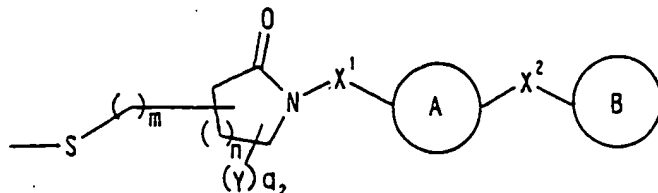
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an integer of 1 to 3, q_1 is an integer of 1 to $2n+4$, q_2 is an integer of 0 to $2n+3$, and the sum of q_1 and q_2 is $2n+4$, provided that when ring B is a nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring then X^2 binds to a position capable of being substituted except for a nitrogen atom on ring B, or a salt thereof.

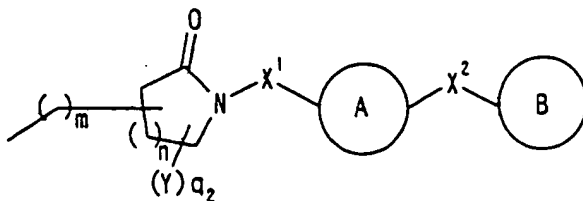
2. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein each of ring A and ring B is an optionally substituted benzene ring.

3. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein each R^1 may be same or different and is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, $-(C=O)-R^6$ (wherein R^6 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an optionally substituted amino group or an optionally substituted hydroxy group) or SR^2 (wherein R^2 has a meaning defined in Claim 1).

4. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein each R^1 may be same or different and is represented by Formula:



wherein each symbol has a meaning defined in Claim 1, or by formula:



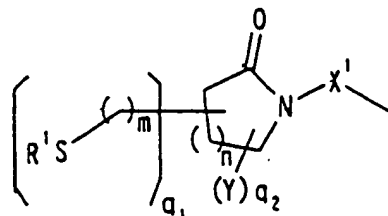
wherein each symbol has a meaning defined in Claim 1.

5. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein X^1 is an optionally substituted methylene group.

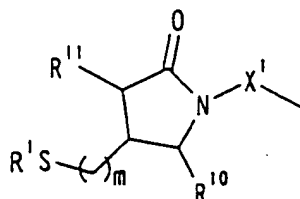
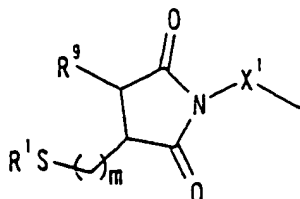
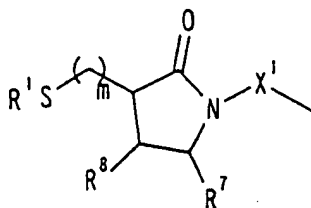
6. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein X^2 is $-O-$.

7. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein the group

represented by Formula:



in Formula I is a group represented by Formula:



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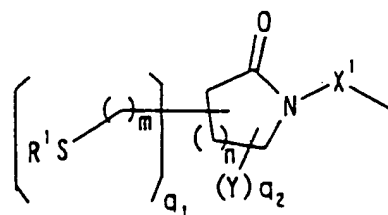
or

wherein each of R^7 to R^{11} may be same or different and each is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted hydroxy group, an optionally substituted amino group or SR^{12} (wherein R^{12} is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an acyl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group) and each of other symbols has a meaning defined in Claim 1.

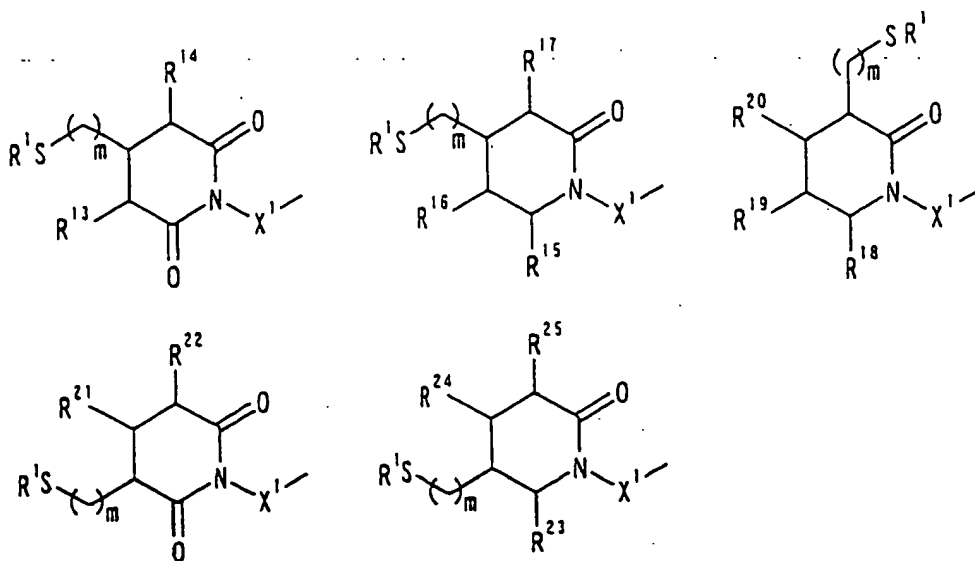
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8. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein the group represented by Formula:

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in Formula I is a group represented by Formula:

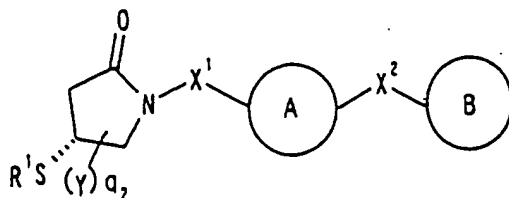


or

wherein each of R^{13} to R^{25} may be same or different and each is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted hydroxy group, an optionally substituted amino group or SR^{12} (wherein R^{12} is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an acyl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group) and each of other symbols has a meaning defined in Claim 1.

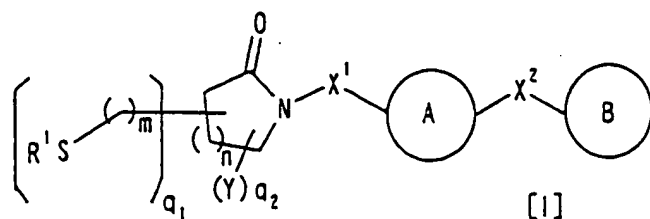
9. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein m is 0.

10. A compound according to Claim 1 which is represented by Formula:

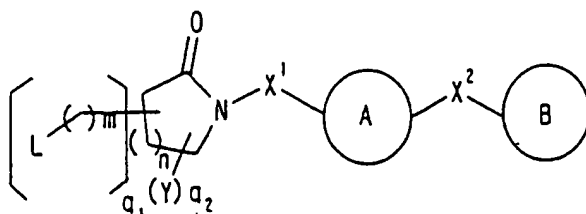


wherein each symbol has a meaning defined in Claim 1.

11. A method for producing a compound represented by Formula:



wherein each symbol has a meaning defined in Claim 1 or a salt thereof, comprising reacting a compound represented by Formula:



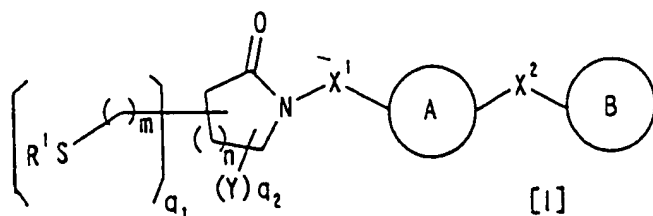
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wherein L is a leaving group and each of other symbols has a meaning defined in Claim 1 or a salt thereof with a compound represented by Formula:



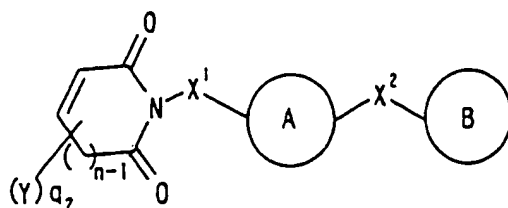
10 wherein R^1 has a meaning defined in Claim 1 or a salt thereof.

12. A method for producing a compound represented by Formula:

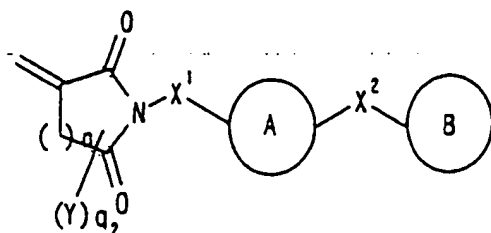


wherein each symbol has a meaning defined in Claim 1 or a salt thereof, comprising reacting a compound represented by Formula:

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wherein each symbol has a meaning defined in Claim 1 or a salt thereof, or a compound represented by Formula:

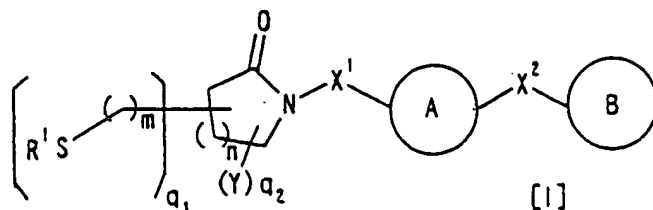


wherein each symbol has a meaning defined in Claim 1 or a salt thereof, with a compound represented by Formula:



5 wherein R^1 has a meaning defined in Claim 1 or a salt thereof.

13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound represented by Formula:



wherein ring A and ring B may be same or different and each is an optionally substituted homocyclic or heterocyclic ring, wherein the substituents on ring A and ring B may be bound to each other and taken together with ring A, ring B and X^2 to form a condensed ring, each R^1 may be same or different and is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, an optionally substituted heterocyclic group or SR^2 (wherein R^2 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an acyl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group), X^1 is a bond, an optionally substituted divalent C_{1-3} aliphatic hydrocarbon group or $-NR^3-$ (wherein R^3 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an acyl group), X^2 is a bond, an optionally substituted divalent C_{1-3} aliphatic hydrocarbon group, $-NR^4-$ (wherein R^4 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an acyl group), $-O-$ or $-S(O)_p-$ (wherein p is 0, 1 or 2), each Y may be same or different and is a hydrogen atom, an optionally

substituted hydrocarbon group, a halogen atom, a carboxyl group, an acyl group, an optionally substituted hydroxy group, an optionally substituted amino group, SR^5 (wherein R^5 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, an acyl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group), an oxo group, a thioxo group, an optionally substituted imino group, a nitro group or a cyano group, each m may be same or different and is 0 or 1, n is an integer of 1 to 3, q_1 is an integer of 1 to $2n+4$, q_2 is an integer of 0 to $2n+3$, and the sum of q_1 and q_2 is $2n+4$ or a salt thereof.

14. A matrix metalloprotease inhibitor comprising a compound according to Claim 13 or a salt thereof.

15. A prophylactic and therapeutic agent against osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, cancer, periodontosis or corneal ulcer comprising a compound according to Claim 13 or a salt thereof.

16. A method for preventing and treating osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, cancer, periodontosis or corneal ulcer comprising administering a compound according to Claim 13 or a salt thereof.

17. A use of a compound according to Claim 13 or a salt thereof for producing a prophylactic and therapeutic agent against osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, cancer, periodontosis or corneal ulcer.